

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The incense burner in accordance with claim 1 16, further comprising: wherein said container includes a set of a first container and a second container which have different shapes and are interchangeably mountable on said heating plate; said a first container which is so disposed that its bottom being in substantial contact with said heating plate; ~~and said second container is so disposed that its bottom being spaced apart from said heating plate.~~
3. (Currently Amended) The incense burner in accordance with claim 232, wherein said second container is mounted on a top cover which covers a periphery of said heating plate.
4. (Currently Amended) The incense burner in accordance with claim 232, wherein said second container has at least one leg for providing a space between said heating plate and the bottom of said second container.
5. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 2, wherein said heating plate and the bottom part of said first container are both made of metal.
6. (Currently Amended) The incense burner in accordance with claim 232, wherein the bottom of said second container is made of ceramic, porcelain or steatite.
7. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 3, wherein said second container has a handle part along its peripheral part, and at least on leg on its bottom part for providing a space between said top cover and the bottom of said container, and is retained on said top cover with said leg.

8. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 3, wherein said second container has a handle part along its peripheral part, and at least one leg on its bottom for providing a space between said top cover and the bottom of said second container, and said leg is provided in a direction of said handle part.

9. (Currently Amended) The incense burner in accordance with claim ~~4~~16, wherein said heater is urged to a direction of said heating plate by a top cover which covers a peripheral part of the heating plate, a heater spring, and a heater cover on which one end of said heater spring rests, and further comprising: a first conduction plate provided between said heating plate and said heater; and a fixing plate provided on said heater cover and positioned by said top cover or said heater cover, wherein said first conduction plate and said heater are positioned by said fixing plate.

10. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 9, further comprising a rubber ring provided between said heating plate and said top cover, wherein said rubber ring is covered by said top cover, thereby to provide a space between the heating plate-side tip end of said top cover and said heating plate.

11. (Currently Amended) The incense burner in accordance with claim ~~4~~16, wherein said heater is urged to a direction of said heating plate by said top cover which covers a periphery of the heating plate, a heater spring and a heater cover on which one end of said heater spring rests, and wherein said heater cover has a bearing part for supporting said heating plate.

12. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 11, further comprising: a rubber ring provided between said heating plate and said top cover which covers a periphery of said heating plate, thereby to provide a gap between the bearing part of the heater cover on which one end of said heater spring rests and said heating plate, wherein said gap does not exceed a compression margin of said rubber ring.

13. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 9, further comprising a second conduction plate provided between said heater spring and said heater, wherein said second conduction plate is positioned by said fixing plate.

14. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 9, wherein said heater cover is retained on said top cover by rotating it.

15. (Currently Amended) The incense burner in accordance with claim ~~1~~16, further comprising an outer lid-guard which has a plurality of openings and is provided for detachably covering said container, wherein a lower end of said outer lid-guard extends downwardly beyond a surface of said heating plate.

16. (Original) An incense burner comprising:
a heater;
a heating plate;
a top cover having a vertically piercing opening which has an inner fringe part provided along a periphery of the opening for holding said heating plate so that it may not escape upwards, and a lateral part for holding said heating plate and said heater stored in the opening from a bottom and for regulating positions of these components directly or by the aids of other components so that they may not move in a lateral direction or rotate;
a heater spring for urging said heater to a direction of said heating plate; and
a heater cover fixed on an underside of said top cover for providing an approximately closed space defined between said top cover and said heater cover, which accommodates at least said heater spring, said heater and said heating plate, wherein said heater cover supports said heater spring upwards.

17. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 16, further comprising a fixing plate, wherein

an area of said heater is smaller than an area of the heating plate,
said fixing plate stores and positions said heater so that said heater may not move laterally or rotate, and
a peripheral part of said top cover positions said fixing plate so that it may not move laterally or rotate in the state of the fixing plate being stored in the opening of said top cover from a bottom.

18. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 16, wherein said heater cover has a bearing part on its peripheral part being in contact with a lateral part of said top cover,
said bearing part is higher than a central part of said heater cover in which said heater is placed, and
at least a part of a peripheral part of said heating plate is sandwiched between said bearing part and said top cover directly or through a rubber ring.

19. (Currently Amended) An incense burner comprising:
_____ an upper frame unit comprising on its top a heating body which heats an aroma material;
_____ a light source;
_____ a pillar part made from transparent or translucent material, having a ~~pillar encircling said light source~~ and a light source cover for covering the light source inside of the pillar;
_____ an outer frame made from transparent or translucent material encircling an outer side of said pillar ~~part~~; and
_____ a lower frame unit for covering a bottom side opening of said outer frame,
_____ wherein said outer frame is sandwiched between said upper frame unit and said lower frame unit, and
said lower frame unit is fixed to said pillar part with a fastening member.

20. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 19, wherein said pillar part is attached to the upper frame unit by engagement prior to the fixing of the outer frame.

21. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 20, wherein
said upper frame unit is configured with an upper frame and a heating body unit having the heating body, and
said pillar part is provided with a plurality of arm parts with attachment pieces on its top, and is engaged with said heating body unit by making said arm parts with attachment pieces pass through a plurality of fitting holes provided in said heating body unit and then rotating said pillar part.

22. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 19, wherein said upper frame unit is configured with an upper frame and heating body unit having the heating body, and
said pillar part is fixed to said upper frame after being engaged with said heating body unit, hereby making its detachment from said upper frame unit unable.

23. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 21, wherein each of the arm-attachment pieces provided on the pillar part is divided into two parts, one of said divided arm-attachment pieces is made to be easily bent at the time of fixing the lower frame unit to said pillar part with a fastening member.

24 (Original) the incense burner in accordance with claim 21, wherein the arm-attachment pieces on the pillar part are provided on a position outside of the position where the heating body unit is disposed.

25. (Original) An incense burner comprising: an upper frame unit having a heating body for heating an aroma material; a pillar part; an outer frame disposed outside of said pillar part; and a lower frame unit, wherein said pillar part is combined with said upper frame unit, and

said pillar part is combined with said lower frame unit in a state where said outer frame is sandwiched between a peripheral part of said upper frame unit and a peripheral part of said lower frame unit.

26. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 25, wherein said pillar part is engaged with said upper frame unit, by making a plurality of arm-attachment pieces provided on the pillar part pass through fitting holes provided on the upper frame unit and then rotating the pillar part, and

at least a part of the plurality of the arm-attachment pieces bends in a state where said pillar part engages with said upper frame unit.

27. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 19 further comprising a control part, wherein

said control part has a switch with a manipulation part which can control electric power supply to the heating body, and

said pillar part is attached to the lower frame unit having a slider sliding part which includes a slider for operating the manipulation part of said switch, an under frame provided with a first urging member for urging said slider, and an under frame cover.

28. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 27, wherein said slider contains, therein, a push rod, and a second urging member for urging to a direction of the manipulation part of the switch,

a first urging member for urging the slider for operating the manipulation part of said switch is provided, and

said second urging member serves to moderate an outside force exerted on the manipulation part of the switch, after the switch manipulation part reaches a limit of its movable range.

29. (Original) An incense burner comprising:
a heating body for heating an aroma material;
a switch for controlling power supply to said heating body;
a housing having an opening on its bottom;
a slider partly stored in said housing for operating said switch directly or through a switch manipulation part and whose lower end projects downwards from said bottom opening; and
a first urging member for urging said slider downwards, wherein
in a state where the incense burner is placed on a plane, a lower end of said slider reaches a level of approximately the same as a bottom part of said housing and said switch permits power supply to said heating body and
in a state where the incense burner falls down, said slider projects more from said bottom opening by being urged by said first urging member, compared with a referred state where the incense burner is placed on a plane, and said switch shuts off power supply to said heating body.

30. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 29, wherein
said slider comprises a slider main body; a push rod; a second urging member, one end of which is supported by said slider main body and the other end of which urges said push rod upwards,
said housing comprises a slider stopper for limiting upward movement of said slider main body,
said push rod and said second urging member are stored in said slider main body, and
in a state where said slider main body is pushed upward to hit said slider stopper, said push rod is pushed upward by said second urging member, operates said switch to be in a conductive state, while maintaining resiliency of said second urging member.

31. (Original) The incense burner in accordance with claim 19, wherein the control part is held by the pillar part and the lower frame unit.

Application No. 10/625,948

32. (New) The incense burner in accordance with claim 16, further comprising: a second container which is so disposed that its bottom being spaced apart from said heating plate.